

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 1/3¹

PRIORITY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES

(Revised 7 March 1962)

1. Pursuant to NSCID No. 1, paragraph 3, the following list of Priority National Intelligence Objectives (PNIOs) is established as a guide for the coordination of intelligence collection and production in response to requirements relating to the formulation and execution of national security policy. This list replaces that contained in DCID No. 1/3, 4 January 1961, which is hereby rescinded.

2. In accordance with the criteria set forth in the Annex, all items in this listing are deemed to be critical national intelligence factors requiring priority attention and effort. Distinction is made, however, between four levels of priority within the general priority category. Order of listing within each of these four groups is a matter of convenience in presentation and has no significance with respect to the relative priority of specific items within the group.

3. Although a given subject may be listed as a matter of priority, not every bit of information relating to it will be required with equal urgency and some may be procurable by routine means. It is therefore incumbent upon research personnel to exercise discrimination in allocating analytical resources and in formulating information requirements so as to accord priority only to those aspects of the listed subject which actually require a priority research or collection effort. Similarly, if specific collection and analytic facilities are inadequate to satisfy all the requirements levied upon them, a determination of priority in their use will have to be made, under the general guidance of the PNIOs but in terms of specific operational capabilities.

4. In order to afford a stable basis for intelligence planning, this Directive is designed to remain valid over an extended period. It will be reviewed annually or on the request of any member of the United States Intelligence Board. It is recognized that urgent interim requirements may arise requiring ad hoc treatment.

¹ This Directive supersedes DCID No. 1/3 of 4 January 1961.